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SECURITY INFORMATION

C 18457

PLACE: VARDØCOUNTRY: NORWAYPopulation: 3,533 in 1950Province: FINNMARKLatitude 70° 23 mins. north  
31° 10 mins. eastDate of Observation: April 4, 1951General Description:

A leading fishing port on an island off the eastern end of north Varanger peninsula. Separated from mainland by about a mile of open water. Depends on mainland for supplies except those imported by sea. Is shipping hdq. for important Barents Sea banks and visited by international fishing fleets.  
Note - Vardø is in longitude of central Turkey and Cairo.

Geographic Description:

Outer coast of Finnmark Plateau, modified mild temperatures of ocean.

Occupations:

<u>Agricultural</u>	<u>Fishing</u>	<u>Industrial</u>
Negligible on island Milk shipped from mainland.	Outstanding	Fish processing of all types.

Natural Vegetation:

No trees. Rough grass, scrub birch, low bushed and other tundra.

Land Forms and Geology:

Glaciated low islands (200 ft.) much bare rock, boulder and pebble shores, sand dunes on mainland. Many raised beaches.

Mining:

Population (racial, cultural, linguistic): Norwegian with Lapp intermixture. Typical fishing port influences. Business and professional.

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SECURITY INFORMATIONPLACE (cont'd): VARDO

Climate and Weather No observations for standard data see "Norwegian Pilot Book",  
pages 31, 34, 35, 36, 41.

Temperatures:

Precipitation:

Clouds:

Other: Note Winter night extends from Nov. 22 to Jan. 21, i.e. 60 days.

Electric Power:Source: Submarine cable from mainland power source at Kongsfjord hydro,  
plus local diesel

Voltage: 230

Cycle: 50

Extent of Grid: Town

Telephone Yes Telegraph Yes Radio Yes TV         
Water piped from Very Important  
mainland.TRANSPORTATION: (From: Varde To: Vadsø and South Norway)Railway: None

Station:

Ballast:

Power :

Gauge :

Bridges:

Highways:

Route No's : #950 at Svartnes on mainland.

Surface Type: Gravel

Width : two-car

Seasonal Use: Closed by snow in Winter, snowmobile used.

Underpass : Note - Water communication is open throughout the year.  
There is no automobile ferry to mainland.~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

**CONFIDENTIAL**PLACE (cont'd): VARDO**SECURITY INFORMATION**Ferries:

Location: Vardø to Svartnes  
 Tonnage : Small motorboat,  
 Capacity: 8 passengers, no cars  
 Schedules: Irregular during daytime.

Steamers:

Routing: Daily express to Kirkenes and South Norway. Local around coast.

Tonnages:

Capacity:

Schedules: See Rutebok

Bus Routes: Note - Many supply vessels including foreign. Numerous trawlers.

Summer: Svartnes to Vadsø and South Norway

Winter: Snowmobile Svartnes to Vadsø

Other Transportation:

Flying boat April to Sept. connects with South Norway. Plans exist to use former Nazi Airfield at Svartnes for land plane service.

MAPS

<u>Title</u>	<u>Scale</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Publisher</u>
Town sketch in Veibok		1949	
See 1949 report for discussion of replanning of town with possible shift to mainland.			
Detailed plans prepared by Nor. Government Planning Office, 1948			

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~PLACE (cont'd): VARDØGuide and Other Books:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Publisher</u>	<u>Cost</u>
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PERSONAL DATA:

Date of travel to this place: April 4, 1951 Arrived: 2330  
Starting Point: Vadsø Departed: Vadsø  
Distance traveled (in kms): 41 5 Apr. 1:30am  
(previous visit  
in 1949)

Vehicles Used: Express steam Princess Martha

Where stayed: \_\_\_\_\_ Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACTS:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>T.ph.</u>	<u>Comment</u>
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PLACE (cont'd): VARDÖ

Photographs:

Purchased locally: None

Taken: None

Sketches Made:

Location

Description

# SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Industries:

<u>Type</u>	<u>No. of Workers</u>	<u>Products</u>	<u>Power</u>
15 fish processing plants including quick freezing, filetting, oil meal, fish drying, etc.		Various for export	Electrical
Ship repairing & misc. small industries			

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## SEAPORTS:

General Comments:

the  
Vardø is a most important fishing port in northeast Norway, but it is inadequate for the traffic. It does not serve as importing point for Hinterland. Plans made to rebuilt it at Svartnes on mainland, where it could have grown, were blocked by local  
Cargo Handling: opposition.

Wharves:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Depth</u>
Main Steamship	North Harbor (wood)	152 meters by 14 Ft. at low tide.
17 other wharves	Fishing companies etc.	Various lengths from 80 to 16 meters. 14 ft. to 5 ft. depth.

Lighters:

Various small

Warehouses: 700 sq. meters on steamship quay, five others up to 1,000 sq.

Cranes: meters area.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>	<u>Comments</u>
At ship repair yards		
Seven	various, electric	
Fish piers		

Repair Facilities All except major damage. Used mainly by trawlers, etc.

Machine Shops: YesFoundries: SmallDry docks: Slip for 100 ft. vessels. Repair wharf 300 ft.Salvage gear: Yes.Supplies Available Important supply base for international fishing fleet.

Water	Yes	Coal	Yes
Provisions	Yes	Oil-Fuel	Yes
Engineering	"	Diesel Fuel	Yes
Deck	Yes		

Harbor Information North harbor is formed by two break waters leaving narrow entrance. Space available inside is restricted. Maximum depth outside entrance 14 meters. Pilot essential. Harbor opened to northerly gales. Reconstruction still continues.

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